



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/977,059	10/11/2001	Prasad V.V.S.V. Mancham	25352-0029	1824

25213 7590 12/04/2002

HELLER EHRMAN WHITE & MCAULIFFE LLP  
275 MIDDLEFIELD ROAD  
MENLO PARK, CA 94025-3506

EXAMINER

BAHAR, MOJDEH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1617

DATE MAILED: 12/04/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/977,059

Applicant(s)

MANCHEM ET AL.

Examiner

Mojdeh Bahar

Art Unit

1617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 September 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-2 (in part), 12-17 (in part), 6-11, 19-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-2 (in part), 12-17 (in part), 3-5, 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

Art Unit: 1617

### **DETAILED ACTION**

Applicant's response to the restriction/election requirement of September 10, 2002 submitted September 18, 2002 is acknowledged. Applicant's suggestion as to the restriction requirement has been carefully considered. During a phone conversation with the applicant's attorney on November 18, 2002, the Examiner proposed the following and the applicant's attorney, Mr. Freyberg, agreed to it. The restriction is as follows:

GI: claims 1-2 (all in part), 12-17 (all in part), 3-5, 18 and 20

GII: claims 1-2 (all in part), 12-17 (all in part), and 6

GIII: claims 1-2 (all in part), 12-17 (all in part), and 7

GVI: claims 1-2 (all in part), 12-17 (all in part), and 8

GV: claims 1-2 (all in part), 12-17 (all in part), and 9

GVI: claims 1-2 (all in part), 12-17 (all in part), and 10

GVII: claims 1-2 (all in part), 12-17 (all in part), 11 and 19

The specie election stands as set forth in the restriction requirement. Applicant's election of the invention set forth in Group I herein immediately above and the election of the compound of claim 18 is acknowledged.

Claims 1-2 (in part), 12-17 (in part), 6-11 and 19 are withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to non-elected inventions. Claim 20 is withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected specie.

Claims 1-2 (in part), 12-17 (in part), 3-5 and 12-18 are herein examined on the merits in so far as they read on the elected specie of compound 18.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The substituent Y is not clearly defined. Although the substituent is functionally described as a "non interfering group," there is no specific recitation of chemical structure of Y that meets this functional description. Therefore the definition is vague and indefinite.

### ***Double Patenting***

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-5 and 12-18 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 29-33 of U.S. Patent No. 6,458,998 B2. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because both the instant claims and the patented claims teach methods of treating hyperglycemia, diabetes and insulin resistance by employing the same compounds. Note that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to employ the compounds herein (and in the patent '988) in a method of treating diabetes, hyperglycemia, etc., regardless of the cause/etiology of these diseases. The skilled artisan would reasonably expect the compounds to possess the same pharmacological properties in treating diabetes and hyperglycemia, regardless of the etiology of these diseases. Patent '988, like claims 12- 18 herein, also teaches the employment of a second active in a method of treating diabetes, hyperglycemia, etc.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mojdeh Bahar whose telephone number is (703) 305-1007. The examiner can normally be reached on (703) 305-1007 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sreeni Padmanabhan, can be reached on (703) 305-1877. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-4556.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.

Mojdeh Bahar  
Patent Examiner  
November 26, 2002

  
SREENI PADMANABHAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
12/1/02